

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action dated August 2, 2006.

The Examiner rejected claims 4-9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Each of claims 4-9 has been amended to overcome the Examiner's rejection.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as claims 1-8 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,825,677. Independent claim 1, from which claims 2 and 3 depend, has been amended to overcome the Examiner's statutory double patenting rejection.

Applicants submit herewith a copy of the Terminal Disclaimer originally submitted with the non-entered Amendment filed January 3, 2007, in order to avoid payment of an additional \$65.


In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 2-9.

This Amendment is being submitted with a Request for Continued Examination, a copy of the Terminal Disclaimer and a Petition for Extension of Time, together with the requisite fees. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-1550.

Respectfully submitted,

CHERNOFF, VILHAUER, McCLUNG & STENZEL

Dated: January 30, 2007

By 
Kevin L. Russell, Reg. No. 38,292
Tel: (503) 227-5631

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 30, 2007.

Dated: January 30, 2007


Kevin L. Russell